# The Bristol Medico-Chirurgical Journal

EDITED FOR THE COUNCIL OF THE

THE BRISTOL MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY

BY

F. A. NIXON, C.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P.

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## SPECIAL JUBILEE NUMBER

## VOLUME FIFTY

## BRISTOL MEDICAL SCHOOL CENTENARY

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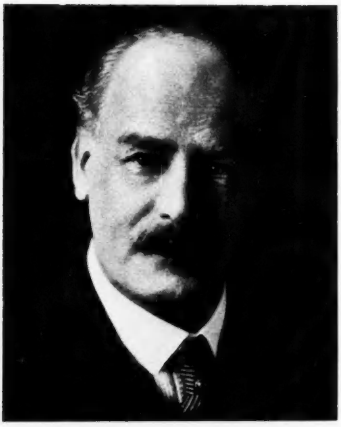
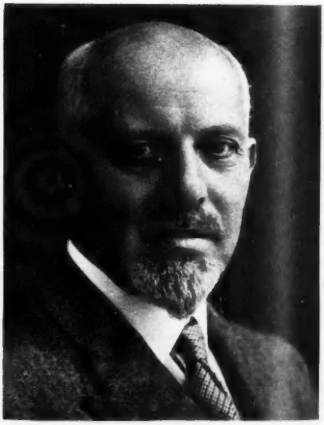
## THE EDITORS

J. GREIG SMITH,
1883—1892.

R. SHINGLETON SMITH.
1892—1912.



P. WATSON-WILLIAMS,
1912—1926.



J. A. NIXON,
1926.

# The Bristol Medico-Chirurgical Journal

*" Scire est nescire, nisi id me Scire alius sciret."*

AUTUMN, 1933.

## EDITORIAL NOTE.

THE coincidence of the centenary of the Medical School with the completion of the fiftieth volume of this *Journal* has been made the occasion for the issue of a special number. It contains a description of the centenary celebrations at the University, together with a survey of the *Journal* during its unbroken existence of fifty years. The opportunity has also been taken of looking back over a longer past and rescuing from oblivion some pioneers in medicine as well as reviving in the memories of our readers some unforgotten names. In the list of contributors in Bristol to the progress of medicine only those who have been indisputably first in the field are included, and the limits of birth or residence have been strictly observed. No mention has been made of any medical man now practising. The history of the medical school with lists of its alumni compiled and written by Dr. G. Parker appeared at the time of the centenary

celebrations. There is no need to go again over the ground which he has so admirably covered. But we feel that this is a suitable opportunity of sending special messages of congratulation to three grand veterans of the Bristol Medical School, Conrad Fitzgerald (M.R.C.S., L.S.A., 1870) and John Edward Shaw (M.B., B.S. Edin., 1872), who entered the School in 1866, and Henry Waldo (M.D. Aberd., 1873, M.R.C.P. Lond., 1888), who entered in 1867. Dr. Fitzgerald lives at Fortune Bay, Newfoundland. Drs. Shaw and Waldo are Consulting Physicians to the Bristol Royal Infirmary and reside in Clifton. Their connection with the School covers two-thirds of its total existence. The history of the *Journal* has been written by Dr. P. Watson-Williams, whose intimate acquaintance with its initiation and progress enables him to describe events from first-hand knowledge rather than from studying its volumes and minutes alone. Bristol has been fortunate in having possessed so many medical chroniclers of contemporary events in the past, thereby the gap that usually divides the present from the past is less noticeable here than elsewhere. The habit of keeping green the memories of great men is due in a large measure to the labours of Richard Smith, the indefatigable surgeon who left behind him fifteen volumes of MS. records carefully preserved in the Royal Infirmary. Our aim in this *Journal* since its foundation has been to speak of the moderns without contempt and of the ancients without idolatry, believing that a knowledge of great traditions is the foundation of high hopes and a pride in past achievement is an encouragement to progress.

An index to the first fifty volumes of the *Journal* is being compiled, and will be issued to all subscribers with our next number.

# THE HISTORY OF "THE BRISTOL MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL JOURNAL."

BY

PATRICK WATSON-WILLIAMS, M.D.,

*Assistant Editor 1900–1912, Editor 1912–1926.*

---

THE publication of Volume I in 1883 dates our *Journal's* birth, and this, its fiftieth year of an unbroken career, is an occasion for congratulations. We can look not only forward to its future with confidence, but back to its past with legitimate pride in its parentage and early years. The Society had already published in 1878 a volume of *Transactions*, embodying the Proceedings of the Society for 1874–78, under the auspices of the energetic young secretary, Dr. R. Shingleton Smith. One is strongly tempted to dwell on this volume, which contained many beautiful drawings and original scientific contributions.

The actual inception of the *Journal* has been recorded by Mr. L. M. Griffiths, for seventeen years Assistant Editor.[1] After referring to the preceding *Transactions*, he continued: "Another four years passed (*i.e.* 1882) and some members of the Committee thought the time had arrived for the publication of a second volume of *Transactions*, covering that period. Feeling that such a retrospect was at its best by no means satisfactory, and knowing well the ability of my professional brethren in the district, I had the temerity to propose in Committee that a publication

[1] Presentation to Mr. L. M. Griffiths, June, 1900, vol. xviii., p. 97.

with a more frequent periodicity, and having the nature of a Journal, should be attempted. This proposition received the support only of Greig Smith and myself. But when the question introduced by Dr. Beddoe was brought before a general meeting of the Society, it was determined *nemine contradicente* that the effort should be made."

The first number of the *Bristol Medico-Chirurgical Journal* appeared in July, and the second, completing the first volume, in December, 1883. The Editor was J. Greig Smith; Assistant Editor, L. M. Griffiths; published by Messrs. J. W. Arrowsmith; 270 pages, numerous illustrations from drawings on stone and photographic prints pasted in. The pale-green cover that most of our readers can still remember bore the lines of Lucilius:—

> "Scire est nescire, nisi id me
> Scire alius sciret."

The contents of the *Journal* are being presented in the forthcoming fifty-year Index; here it is possible only to recall certain outstanding contributions. But the first volume deserves an ampler note, showing that our foundations were well and truly laid.

It opens with an article by R. Shingleton Smith: "The Proofs of the Existence of a Phthisical Contagion," introduced as "a subject of peculiar interest to the medical profession of this district, inasmuch as it was here that our late colleague, Dr. William Budd, startled the profession by announcing his belief that phthisis would be found to be contagious."[1] E. Markham Skerritt follows, with clinical records and investigations pointing to the dominance of the factors of heredity and suitable soil as evidence *against* the contagiousness of phthisis (22 pages).

[1] See page 172 of this issue.

Then came G. Munro Smith, on "The Cardiograph" (*i.e.* Sphygmomanometer); W. H. Harsant, "Surgical Notes"; Case Reports by E. Long Fox, G. Thompson, J. Fenton Evans, J. Fuller, J. E. Shaw, and five by J. Greig Smith—the latter and many others beautifully illustrated. Book Reviews and "Medical Extracts" complete the first number.

The second number opens with "Placenta Prævia," by J. G. Swayne; then "An Epidemic of Tetanus," by A. Sheen (Cardiff); "Medical Posture," by J. Kent Spender (Bath); "Perforating Ulcer of the Stomach," by Nelson C. Dobson; "Retinoscopy," by A. Prowse; and "Clinical Records." Next, notes on the University College Medical School; Report of the Faculty (90 students, 38 new entrants); and Dr. Beddoe's Address (10 pages) at the distribution of prizes. Surely it is one of the uses of a Journal to note the progress of our Medical School and the apprentice footsteps of its sons.

After the first volume the *Journal* appeared quarterly. In 1884 we are introduced to cocaine, the new local anæsthetic. Notes by Dr. Fenton Evans on a young woman who had thrown herself over the Clifton Suspension Bridge are particularly interesting as the only case in which an attempt at suicide from this bridge has failed. The writer was in residence when the patient was brought into the Royal Infirmary, collapsed and pulseless, and hence was particularly interested to learn quite recently that she was alive and well. In Volume IV (1886) there began to appear "Scraps," collected by the Assistant Editor.

In 1891 an Editorial Committee was appointed. The members were: Dr. Barclay Baron, Dr. Michell Clarke, Mr. F. R. Cross, Mr. W. H. Harsant. The Committee met for the first time on January 28th at 28 Berkeley Square.

1892 is memorable in the history of the *Journal*, because Dr. R. Shingleton Smith was appointed Editor in succession to Mr. J. Greig Smith, whose resignation the Society accepted with great regret. In the December number an account is given of the opening, by Sir Andrew Clark, on 16th November, of the handsome new wing of University College, assigned to the Bristol Medical School. The cost of the Library Building and Council Chamber was mainly defrayed by the subscriptions of our members. We refer later (p. 161) to the foundation of the Library. Of supreme interest is Mr. Augustin Prichard's account of the "Early History of the Bristol Medical School." In this year half-tone electros were first used for illustrations; they have the merit of simplicity and cheapness, but one cannot help regretting the beautiful hand-drawn illustrations of the earlier volumes.

Volume XII, 1894, is particularly memorable for its record of the Annual Meeting here of the British Medical Association, under the Presidency of Dr. Edward Long Fox. The *Journal* recalls the first anniversary meeting here of the "Provincial Medical and Surgical Association" in 1833,[1] and the meeting of the British Medical Association in 1863.

The Editorial Committee held their meetings in the University College from 25th July, 1893, onwards. Mr. L. M. Griffiths's energies had so added to his self-imposed work that in 1895 Dr. Bertram Rogers was appointed Editorial Secretary. In 1898 he found himself unable to spare the time required for the work of Secretary, though he consented to remain on the Committee, and Mr. James Taylor was appointed Editorial Secretary.

At the one hundred and twelfth meeting of the

[1] See p. 181 of this issue.

Committee on 26th December, 1899, Mr. L. M. Griffiths announced his resignation, to the deepest regret of the Committee. The members recorded their high appreciation of his indefatigable and self-denying services, and particularly requested him to continue his "Scraps"; and the Society presented him with an Address of Appreciation and other substantial marks of their sense of gratitude. Yet none but those who, like the writer in after years, were engaged on the production of the *Journal* ever really learnt how much of our success was due to Griffiths. In all arrangements for the production, for advertisements, for reviews, for "exchanges," and in the arduous secretarial duties he was untiring.

On 30th January, 1900, Dr. P. Watson-Williams was elected Assistant Editor. He proposed and had permission to arrange for Editorial Notes on questions of special interest. The movement then afoot with a view to the establishment of a University of Bristol was the subject of some of the earliest of these Notes.

The Presidential Address for this year by Dr. Lionel Weatherley, "A Plea for Sanatoria for Poor Consumptives," is particularly memorable in connection with the subsequent establishment of the Winsley Sanatorium. It was largely due to Dr. Weatherley's moving appeals that this particular object of the Three Counties Branch of the National Association for the Prevention of Consumption was attained. But the movement had already been initiated by some members of the Committee of the Medico-Chirurgical Society under the leadership of Dr. E. Long Fox, when he called a public meeting at Clifton on 6th July, 1899. At this meeting the Three Counties Branch for Gloucester, Wilts and Somerset was inaugurated. It may be noted that the donations of

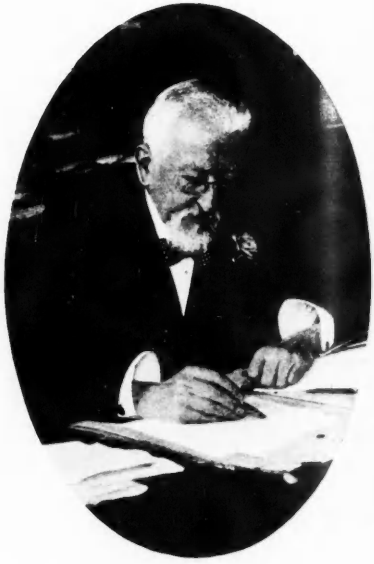
private charity towards the land and buildings of Winsley Sanatorium between 1899 and 1912 exceeded £21,000, all of which has passed into the control of the Bristol Corporation—a sign of the times. The *Journal* records at some length the activities of the Three Counties Branch.

Volume XIX, for 1901, is adorned with a frontispiece of her late Majesty Queen Victoria at the opening of the Jubilee Convalescent Home (13th November, 1899). The *Journal* minutes record that this was provided by the Editor at his own cost; and also that "financial difficulties have restricted the efforts of the Editor and his Committee." Financial straits were constantly matters for consideration for many years.

The Long Fox Lecture was instituted in memory of Edward Long Fox, who died in the year 1902, "to encourage research in subjects concerned with the science of medicine." These lectures, which are representative of original work and clinical investigation, have mostly been published exclusively in our *Journal*, and hence have especial claims to notice in our history. Dr. Edward Long Fox was physician to the Bristol Royal Infirmary, 1857–77, and Lecturer in Medicine and Pathological Anatomy at the Bristol Medical School.

The first lecture was delivered on 4th November, 1904, by Dr. John Beddoe, F.R.S., on "The Ideal Physician." He referred to Dr. Long Fox's worth and work which was "rewarded with love, honour and troops of friends," and recalled one of his less-known services to our city in the typhus epidemic which broke out shortly after Dr. Fox had begun practice. "We had no Medical Officer of Health . . . but Long Fox created an organization to meet the situation and devoted himself personally to the work." As more

L. M. GRIFFITHS,
*Assistant Editor.*
1883—1899.



J. W. ARROWSMITH,
*Publisher.*
1883—1913.

directly concerning our *Journal* we may recall that Dr. Long Fox made a successful and organized effort amongst his colleagues and friends to raise the amount required for the new Medical School building which, when erected, housed the Medical Library as well as what is now the Senate Room, where all the meetings of the Society were held for years.

In 1907 the Monotype machine was first used to set the type for the *Journal*.

In 1912 Dr. R. Shingleton Smith resigned the Editorship after twenty years' service. Dr. P. Watson-Williams, Assistant Editor since 1900, was elected to fill the vacancy, and Dr. J. A. Nixon became Assistant Editor. The other members of the Committee, Dr. J. Michell Clarke, Dr. James Swain and Mr. J. Lacy Firth, continued their valued services, to the great assistance of the new Editor. Dr. Fortescue-Brickdale was appointed Editorial Secretary.

The *Journal* lost one of its best friends early in 1913 by the death of Mr. J. W. Arrowsmith, the founder of our firm of publishers, whose personal devotion to the production of the *Journal* from its earliest days onwards was extremely helpful.

The difficulties which arose during the War cannot be passed in silence. At the outset the Editorial Committee carried on as usual, but as time wore on their work was carried on with ever-increasing difficulty. Captain Fortescue-Brickdale was ordered abroad in 1915, Dr. Nixon went overseas with the Sixty-first Division in 1916, and Colonel James Swain was on duty as Advisory Consultant Surgeon to the Army. Colonel Michell Clarke and Captain Lacy Firth, who alone remained of the Editorial Committee, were very much occupied with their arduous duties with the Second Southern Hospital.

The writer, at that time Editor, apologizes for the obvious shortcomings of the *Journal* during the later years of the War and for some time subsequently. For these shortcomings he seeks some excuse in that his work as Consulting Aural Surgeon to the Southern Command occupied an overwhelming proportion of his time. Among other unforeseen difficulties was the increase in the cost of paper, which was only overcome by the happy chance afforded of making a large purchase in advance. The Editor took this responsibility himself; otherwise even the rather slender war numbers would have been impossible. As it was, from 1915 to 1922 only twenty numbers could be published, two or three for each year. Volume XXXVI comprises one number for 1918 and two for 1919. Among other interesting features of the "War" *Journal* are a complete nominal roll of the staff of the Second Southern General Hospital and a record of Honours conferred on local colleagues.

By the death of Lieut.-Col. J. Michell Clarke in the year 1918, whilst still on war service, the Editorial Committee of the *Journal* lost its senior member, who had rendered us devoted service since 1891. It was a severe blow, for his guidance was always to be trusted.

In Vol. XXXVII, 1920, is an Editorial Note on the proposed amalgamation of Bristol Hospitals.

In 1924 the Editorial Committee sustained a further loss by the resignation of Colonel James Swain, C.B., C.M.G., whose collaboration had continued ever since 1897, and throughout this lengthy period had been of the greatest value, particularly in regard to surgical subjects.

Volume XLII, No. 156 (1925) was made a special number, profusely illustrated, to mark the Royal

opening of the new University Buildings. It opens with a short survey of the evolution of the early conception of a University in Bristol, first suggested nearly three centuries ago by Dr. Dell, Cromwell's chaplain, and of the subsequent long-delayed steps which culminated in the actual foundation of the University in 1909. The various views of the University Buildings and of the Royal Infirmary and General Hospital, together with many interesting details relating to the work of the several departments, will be valued as a record of historical value. The entire number contained many illustrations and was printed on art paper and bound in a special cover. We believe that it worthily commemorates a great occasion.

The year 1926 opened with the *Journal* in larger page and type, a long-cherished ambition till then, perforce, delayed. The cover was changed to the dark neutral tint of the binding of the special number, which has remained in use up to the present, and the motto disappeared from it. With the publication of this issue the Editor resigned his charge, having completed twenty-six years of service, first as Assistant Editor since January, 1900, and as Editor since December, 1912.

Dr. J. A. Nixon was elected Editor in March, 1926, and Dr. Carey F. Coombs Assistant Editor. Mr. Lacy Firth resigned from the Editorial Committee in April, after many years of valued work. The vacancies in the Committee were filled by the election of Mr. E. Watson-Williams and of Mr. A. E. Iles, who had just been chosen for the newly-created and responsible office of Treasurer to the Society. The innovation of bringing the finances of the *Journal* into the same hands as those of the Society has proved of the greatest value. That Dr. A. L. Flemming

consented to remain as Editorial Secretary was most helpful to the Editor and his colleagues, and as Dr. Flemming was this year President of the Society, it was no light service. His Presidential Address on "Anæsthesia" comprised a most interesting and scholarly review of the earlier developments in anæsthesia, of course including a reference to Humphry Davy's discovery of the properties of nitrous oxide gas while he was in residence in Bristol. But Dr. Flemming forgot to tell us anything of his own initiation of the open-ether technique in 1896; most of the older practitioners recall the semi-asphyxiation that the ether bag involved. It was Hewitt, the most notable anæsthetist of his day, who referred to the open-ether light anæsthesia we know so well as the "Bristol method." For many years it remained essentially the Bristol method, though it has now been so very generally adopted that we are apt to forget its inventor and the credit that belongs to our school.

In Vol. XLIV, No. 164 (1927), we find the address delivered by Mr. F. Richardson Cross on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the foundation of University College, entitled "Early Medical Teaching in Bristol."

The almost sudden death on 9th December, 1932, of the Assistant Editor, Dr. Carey Coombs, at the age of 54, was so great a loss to the Bristol Medical School and, indeed, to the profession the world over, as to appear a real tragedy. For what he was and what he had accomplished we may refer to the obituary notice in the *Journal*. It has been our privilege to publish many of his valuable contributions to cardiology, among which, perhaps, stand out his Long Fox Lecture (1926), "The Ætiology of Cardiac

Disease," and particularly "Thirty Years' Progress in the Study of Rheumatic Heart Disease," published posthumously in our last issue. What we could say here would inevitably appear inadequate to convey the high esteem in which Carey Coombs was held. Looking back through over fifty years one finds but few of our colleagues who have been accorded an individual memorial; but to perpetuate the work, and especially to furnish opportunity for others to carry on the work, that Carey Coombs initiated is a duty; and we cannot doubt that the efforts of the organizing Committee will be crowned with complete success.

The office of Assistant Editor was filled by the appointment of Mr. E. Watson-Williams. The *Journal* has undergone no further outward changes of moment, but has continued to grow in strength and usefulness, and in the support of members and subscribers. The *Journal* of to-day requires no words of commendation, simply because we all know it. But as this history will be a record to which in time to come our colleagues of quite another generation may turn, they should know that the present Editor and his collaborators, who have established and enhanced the *Journal's* reputation and standing, all bear the honourable scars of the Great War that will then be but history.

## THE MEDICAL LIBRARY

In connection with the development of the Medical Library, the Bristol Medical School owes to the Society and its *Journal* a debt that it can never hope to repay. The actual foundation of the Library, as we know it, and its successful progress, are due almost entirely to the energy and enthusiasm of Mr. J. Greig Smith and Mr. L. M. Griffiths.

In his Presidential Address[1] the former tells us: "I do more than care for the success of the Library; my heart and soul are in it. I am, indeed, committed to it; for when the *Journal* began to earn money, and there was a likelihood of our generous Committee distributing it too liberally to charities, I pleaded for the hoarding of it—that we might buy books and found a library. These small hoardings accumulated and they made possible the existence of a Medical Library in our midst. The valuable and extensive Infirmary Library will be placed on our shelves; the Hospital will lend its books. With some 10,000 volumes on our shelves and some 90 current periodicals on the tables, we may fairly claim to have made a good start."

One of the most fruitful means of keeping the Library up to date by the addition of newly-published works has been the Review service of the *Journal* from the very beginning. Already by July, 1883, six newly-published works had been received for review, and six more within the first year; within the three years 1884, 1885, and 1886 no less than 102 books were received and reviewed.

A moment's reflection tells us that the sending of these works must have been in response to the Editor's efforts to start at once in establishing Reviews as an important feature of the *Journal's* work. But without L. M. Griffiths, who was a born librarian, to support him, to care for and arrange the books, the success of this feature would have been far less, and it was certainly due to the organizing genius of Griffiths that as years went by the Library was in receipt of a wonderfully valuable exchange list which, in 1913, amounted to 112 current medical periodicals.

[1] *Journal*, December, 1893, vol. xi., p. 216.

In 1921 the combined Medical Libraries contained 24,659 volumes, 9,278 belonging to the University and 15,381 to the Society. In 1926 the *Journal* records the gift of the Society's valuable Medical Library to the University and the allocation of a room for the use of members of the Society in the Library wing of the new University Building. To-day it contains 24,000 volumes (excluding duplicates, obsolete editions and unbound books), increasing 400–500 annually; it is particularly rich in complete series of medical periodicals, and has been authoritatively ranked as one of the best Medical Libraries in the provinces. The *Journal* continues to play no insignificant part in this development. Of the new books (excluding periodicals) each year added to the Library rather more than half come through the Review service of the *Journal*, and of the 175 periodicals now being received 70 come in exchange for the *Journal*.

FORMAT

Vol. I, 1883—Two issues. Demy octavo; page 22 ems wide, 33 lines = $6\frac{7}{8}$ in. deep; small pica old style; Reviews, etc., long primer modern; illustrations from drawings on stone and photographs pasted in. Cover pale green.

Vol. II, 1884 and subsequently, quarterly issue.

1892—Half-tone blocks for illustrations.

1893—Page 23 ems wide, 38 lines = $6\frac{7}{8}$ in. deep; long primer old style.

1907—Type first set by monotype in 10 point old style.

1914—Type enlarged to 11 point old style; Reviews in 10 point old style.

1915—Three numbers only. 1916—Two numbers. 1917—Three numbers.

Vol. XXXVI—One number for 1918 and two for 1919. Vol. XXXVII, 1920—Four numbers. 1921—Three numbers. 1922—Two numbers. 1923—Four numbers.

1925—No. 156. Special number to commemorate Royal opening of new University buildings; on art paper. Cover changed to dark neutral tint.

1926—Vol. XLIII, No. 159. Royal octavo; page 24 ems wide, 35 lines=$7\frac{1}{8}$ in. deep; 12 point modern; Reviews, etc., 11 point modern.

## EDITORIAL STAFF.

From 1883 to the formation of the Committee in 1891 the publication of the *Journal* was entirely the work of J. Greig Smith and L. M. Griffiths.

*Editor.*

| | |
|---|---|
| J. GREIG SMITH .. | 1883–1892 |
| R. SHINGLETON SMITH | 1892–1912 |
| P. WATSON-WILLIAMS | 1912–1926 |
| [1]J. A. NIXON .. .. | 1926 |

*Editorial Secretary.*

| | |
|---|---|
| B. M. H. ROGERS .. | 1895–1898 |
| J. TAYLOR .. .. | 1899–1909 |
| J. A. NIXON .. .. | 1909–1912 |
| J. M. FORTESCUE-BRICKDALE | 1913–1921 |
| [3]W. A. SMITH .. .. | 1915–1918 |
| [1]A. L. FLEMMING .. | 1921 |

*Assistant Editor.*

| | |
|---|---|
| [2]L. M. GRIFFITHS .. | 1883–1899 |
| P. WATSON-WILLIAMS | 1900–1912 |
| J. A. NIXON .. .. | 1912–1926 |
| CAREY F. COOMBS .. | 1926–1932 |
| [1]E. WATSON-WILLIAMS | 1933 |

*Treasurer of the Medico-Chirurgical Society, ex-officio.*

| | |
|---|---|
| [1]A. E. ILES .. .. | 1926 |

*Committee.*

| | |
|---|---|
| BARCLAY J. BARON .. | 1891–1893 |
| J. MICHELL CLARKE | 1891–1918 |
| F. R. CROSS .. .. | 1891–1898 |
| W. H. HARSANT .. | 1891–1899 |
| J. SWAIN .. .. .. | 1897–1924 |
| B. M. H. ROGERS .. | 1898–1900 |
| J. LACY FIRTH .. | 1900–1926 |
| CAREY F. COOMBS .. | 1919–1926 |
| [1]E. W. HEY GROVES | 1924 |
| E. WATSON-WILLIAMS | 1926–1933 |
| [1]A. RENDLE SHORT .. | 1933 |

[1] Present Committee. [2] And Publications Secretary, 1883–1895.
[3] During absence of Captain Fortescue-Brickdale on service.

*The Arrowsmith Colophon.*

# BRISTOL'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO MEDICAL PROGRESS.

JOHN FREE is the first of a notable succession of Bristolians who have helped to advance the science and art of medicine. A graduate of Oxford, he came to Bristol, whence, attracted by reports of a revival of learning in Italy, he sailed with three or four friends to ascertain at first hand what new secrets of science the Italian universities could impart. He studied at the Universities of Ferrara, Florence and Padua, settling as a teacher of medicine in the first named. His writings against Diodorus Siculus gained for him the gratitude of the Pope (Pius II), who appointed him to the vacant Bishopric of Bath. To this office he was never consecrated, for he fell ill and died in 1465 before he could return to England. A rapid succession of students followed in Free's footsteps, and Leland's description of him may be recalled with pride: "primus Anglorum erat, qui propulsa barbarie patriam honesto labore bonis literis restituit." He was at some time (1464) Rector of St. Michael the Archangel, Bristol.

Nearly contemporary with John Free was the famous topographer WILLIAM WYRCESTRE (or WORCESTER) (1415–1484), the son of a substantial burgess of Bristol, who after passing four years as a student at Hart Hall in Oxford became a retainer to Sir John Fastolf of Caistre Castle in Norfolk. In process of time he

became Fastolf's secretary and physician and finally his executor. Although Worcester is chiefly famed as a chronicler and traveller, he established himself in the decline of his life in Bristol, having a house and garden near St. Philip's Churchyard Gate. There he cultivated medicinal herbs and practised physic till his death about 1484. The MS. of Phreas's (or Free's) *Cosmographia* in the library of Balliol College, Oxford, was presented by Worcester. There appears no other evidence of these two great Bristolians being acquainted.

JOHN MAPLET (1612 ?–1670), described by Antony à Wood as "learned, candid and ingenious, a good physician, a better Christian and an excellent Latin poet," was at one time Principal of Gloucester Hall in Oxford. He was created Doctor of Physic in 1647. During the Commonwealth he was ejected from his college office, but was restored in 1660. Soon after, however, he resigned. He practised his faculty in the summer-time at Bath and in the winter-time at Bristol. In his *Medicinal Epistles* he refers to the effects of the Bath waters. Some of his observations were embodied in Guidot's treatise on the waters of Bath.

THOMAS DOVER (1660–1742), the pupil and friend of Sydenham, the home-bringer of Alexander Selkirk and the inventor of Dover's Powder, was the first physician appointed in 1696 by the Bristol Corporation of the Poor to take charge of the patients in the newly-opened St. Peter's Hospital. In 1708 he sailed round the world with Woodes Rogers, who brought home Selkirk from Juan Fernandez. It is probable that Dover brought Selkirk to the knowledge of

Daniel Defoe. Dover was the grandson of Robert Dover, who founded the Cotswold Games and is buried at Barton-on-the-Heath. Thomas Dover, who was born at Barton, ended his days at Stanway in Gloucestershire. He died there in 1742, and was buried in the family vault of the Tracys under the altar of Stanway Church. Dover in his life-time was known as the "Quicksilver Doctor." He published a famous book in praise of mercury, *The Physician's Legacy.*

THOMAS LOVELL BEDDOES (1760–1808) was born in Staffordshire in 1760, entered Pembroke College, Oxford, in 1776, studied anatomy in London, and in 1784 commenced a medical career in Edinburgh, whence he graduated in 1787. After this he went to Paris, where he made a friend of Lavoisier. In the autumn of 1787 he assumed the position of Lecturer on Chemistry in Oxford. In 1793 Dr. Beddoes moved to Bristol and practised medicine there. He embarked upon experimental work with gases and introduced the idea of curing diseases such as chlorosis, hypochondriasis, dyspepsia, epilepsy and scurvy by inhalation—as well as (perhaps more successfully) asthma, dropsy and hydrothorax. In 1799 he founded (by public subscription) the Pneumatic Institution at the Hotwells, Clifton, where a hospital of ten beds, a research laboratory, a lecture hall and accommodation for out-patients was provided. He appointed as Director of the Institution Humphry Davy, then aged nineteen years. In the devising of apparatus he was assisted by James Watt.

It was here in April, 1799, that Humphry Davy obtained pure nitrous oxide and demonstrated its effects when inhaled. Humphry Davy was doubtful

of the value of the pneumatic treatment of diseases, and did not share Dr. Beddoes's enthusiasm over his apparent cures. In 1801 Humphry Davy left Bristol with the approval of Dr. Beddoes to become Professor of Chemistry at the Royal Institution of London. The value of Davy's discoveries is undisputed. Of Beddoes it has been truly said that he "died disconsolate at his lack of accomplishment." He opposed the slave trade, but Bristol merchants prospered on this traffic for twenty-five years after his death; he had lost his chair at Oxford for championing the cause of the French Revolution; and his Pneumatic Institute failed in its object of curing disease by inhalation, though the discoveries made there by Humphry Davy led presently to nitrous oxide anæsthesia.

Nevertheless, his early efforts at the reduction of infant mortality entitle him to a place in the history of preventive medicine which he failed to win as a therapist, whilst his discovery of Humphry Davy was in the end his greatest achievement of all.

THOMAS BAYNTON (1761–1830) was a Bristol surgeon who saw farther ahead than many men of his own time. His method of strapping ulcers of the leg by overlapping strips of encircling plaster is immortalized in Von Bergmann's *Surgery* as "Baynton's method." A further study of Baynton's writings shows that he was the first surgeon to advocate the treatment of spinal caries by absolute rest in the horizontal position without the aid of setons and issues. His revolt against the accepted barbarities of his day led to most vehement attacks upon him for his temerity by the leading surgeons,

particularly Earle and by Estlin in Bristol. Nevertheless, he won the support of wiser and greater men than these, namely Edward Jenner, to whom he dedicated his pamphlet on *The Treatment of Diseases of the Spine*, and Anthony Fothergill, to whom he addressed his *New Method of Treating Old Ulcers of the Legs*.

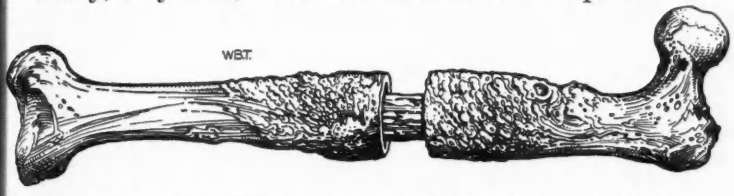
Baynton was born in 1761 near the foot of Clifton Down. He was apprenticed to Mr. Elmes the apothecary, and became a student at the Bristol Infirmary; he attended the lectures of Pole and Bromfield in London and set up in Bristol to practise in 1782. In 1783 he was an unsuccessful candidate for a surgeon's vacancy at the Bristol Infirmary, and never again presented himself for election. A contemporary (R. Smith) wrote of him: "That he was well acquainted with the great principles of surgery and medicine there can be no doubt, but he was not backward in cherishing the idea that he had outstripped all his brethren in professional acquirements." He made a large income by his practice, and he had other sources of wealth, so that he died worth more than £33,000. Most of this fortune went to the lawyers who contested his long and intricate will after his death in 1830.

JAMES COWLES PRICHARD (1786–1846), who was Physician to the Royal Infirmary from 1816 to 1843, holds a distinguished place in the annals of psychiatry. His *Treatise on Insanity and Other Disorders Affecting the Mind* was published in 1835, and was for a long time the standard work on the subject. Tuke, in his *History of the Insane in the British Isles* (London, 1882), wrote that Prichard "will always be remembered in the republic of letters by his learned contributions to

anthropology and the literature of mental diseases in which he is more especially identified with the doctrine of Moral Insanity." Prichard is acknowledged to have been the first to discriminate that form of mental derangement which is now known as moral insanity or moral imbecility. His eminent position was recognized by his own University of Oxford, who conferred on him the degree of M.D. "by diploma" in 1835, on the occasion of the installation of the Duke of Wellington as Chancellor.

RICHARD BRIGHT (1789–1858) was born in Bristol. His father, Richard Bright, was an influential citizen and banker, who lived at Ham Green House. Richard, his third son, was educated at Dr. Estlin's School and subsequently at Edinburgh University and Guy's Hospital. He took the degree of M.D. at Edinburgh in 1813, and in 1820 was appointed to the staff of Guy's Hospital. Ill health caused his retirement from Guy's in 1843 at the early age of 54. The work by which he is chiefly remembered was that on nephritis, in which he correlated the symptoms of renal disease with inflammation of the kidneys. He made many other original observations in clinical medicine, amongst which Garrison in his History of Medicine credits him with the first descriptions of pancreatic diabetes and pancreatic steatorrhœa, acute yellow atrophy of the liver, unilateral convulsions or Jacksonian epilepsy, and (according to Wilks) the cardiac bruit in chorea. Garrison describes him as an accomplished artist, an able botanist and geologist and personally a simple, unprejudiced, truth-loving man.

DR. HENRY GRESLEY EMERY received his medical education at the Bristol Infirmary, and in 1810 applied for the post of Apothecary at the Infirmary, but was not appointed. He served as a Surgeon with the British Army in Portugal, and subsequently practised at Banwell. Concerning the very interesting specimen figured below, which is in the Museum of the Bristol Royal Infirmary, the present Museum catalogue states: "This beautiful specimen is of historic interest. The subject was Sebastian de Chamours, Chasseurs Brittaniques.[1] The limb was removed by Mr. Greiley Emery, July 10th, 1814. This was the first amputation




THE FEMUR OF SEBASTIAN DE CHAMOURS CHASSEURS BRITTANIQUE REMOVED AT THE ARTICULATION BY DR. HENRY GRESLEY EMERY 18 JULY, 1814. (*Inscription on the bone.*)

at the hip-joint performed in England. Mr. Emery had been educated at the Bristol Infirmary." The catalogue was drawn up about 1901 by Mr. E. H. E. Stack, whose custom it was to copy the historical entries without variation from the old manuscript catalogue, now apparently lost. It will be noticed that the entry quoted differs in certain particulars from the inscription on the

[1] "The Chasseurs Britanniques was a Light Infantry Corps, formed early in the Revolutionary War from French Royalists, but in 1811, when it came out to Portugal, recruited entirely from deserters of all sorts . . . Frenchmen, Italians, Poles and Swiss. The officers were almost without exception furious French Royalists, the second generation of the *émigrés*."—Oman, *Wellington's Army* 1809–1814, 1912, p. 225.

bone, the handwriting of which resembles that of Mr. Richard Smith, the founder of the Museum. How, when and where Dr. Emery performed the amputation is not known; nor whether the patient —who, judging by the size of the central sequestrum and the thickness and density of the involucrum, must have been wounded months or years before— survived the operation.

In 1856 DR. WILLIAM BUDD (1811–1880), Physician to the Royal Infirmary from 1847 to 1862, announced his conviction that Typhoid Fever is contagious:—[1]

"This fever has two fundamental characteristics. The first is that it is an essentially contagious disorder; the second, that by far the most virulent part of the specific poison by which the contagion takes effect is contained in the diarrhœal discharges. . . . The discharges from the bowels are thrown into the water-closet or privy. In this way the drains become at once saturated with the specific poison. The poison may give the fever to the healthy in one of three ways: either by percolating into the well which supplies the drinking water; by issuing through defects in the sewer into the air; or by exhaling from the aperture of some ill-trapped closet or privy. . . . This species of fever, like all other contagious fevers, has what is called a period of incubation. I have been led to the conclusion that this period ranges from ten to fourteen days."

Dr. Budd built up a mass of evidence which amounts, as he himself showed, to proof, in a series of articles in the *Lancet*, 1858–59; and in his book on *Typhoid Fever* in 1873.[2] He cites evidence from over a dozen epidemics, many of which have a local interest:

[1] *Lancet*, 6th December, 1856, vol. ii.

[2] *Typhoid Fever*, Longmans, Green & Co., 1873.

for example, in 1842, at the Ashley Hill Orphanage, and in 1847 at Richmond Hill, where all the houses affected drew their water from a contaminated well. His pioneer work on this subject earned the F.R.S., and the rules he laid down in 1858 for disinfection are those in use to-day without any modification.

Yet for many years after he had demonstrated the mode of infection the field was still held by the "pythogenic" theory that typhoid fever arose, as it were, spontaneously from the putrefaction of ordinary sewage. "The doctrine that typhoid fever is a contagious fever and is chiefly propagated by the typhoid excreta is an illusive hypothesis."[1] Murchison as long afterwards as 1867 could be found writing: "There is no proof whatever that the fresh stools passed by a typhoid patient are in any way deleterious. The fever is propagated by the stools only after they have undergone decomposition."[2]

In 1867 Dr. William Budd put forward the then novel theory (which he had first tentatively conceived ten years previously) that Pulmonary Tuberculosis is not a constitutional disorder, but an infectious disease:—[3]

"The following are the principal conclusions to which I have been led regarding phthisis or tubercle:

"1. That tubercle is a true zymotic disease of specific nature, in the same sense as typhoid fever, scarlet fever, typhus, syphilis, etc.

"2. That like these diseases tubercle never originates spontaneously, but is perpetuated solely by the law of contagious succession.

[1] Tanner, *Practice of Medicine*, sixth edition.

[2] Murchison, *British Medical Journal*, 16th March, 1867.

[3] *Lancet*, 1867, vol. ii., p. 451.

"3. That the tuberculous matter itself is (or includes) the specific morbific matter of the disease and constitutes the material by which phthisis is propagated from one person to another and disseminated throughout society.

"4. That the deposits of this matter are therefore of the nature of an eruption and bear the same relation to the disease phthisis as the 'yellow matter' of typhoid fever, for instance, bears to typhoid fever. . . ."

He goes on to support his thesis by citing the heavy incidence in cities, and especially the most crowded and poorest parts, the comparative freedom of rural populations, the often complete freedom of remote peoples, Greenlanders, American Indians and others, until they are brought into contact with Europeans, and the virulent epidemic tuberculosis that ensues when they are, and concludes by advancing proposals for disinfection of sputum as of first importance in the campaign against tuberculosis.

The revolutionary nature of this suggestion at the time when it was made may perhaps not be obvious at the present day. We may recall that in 1883 the first article printed in volume one of this *Journal* was a paper by Dr. Shingleton Smith on "The Proofs of the Existence of a Phthisical Contagion"; and the second article was devoted to clinical evidence *against* that thesis.

AUGUSTIN PRICHARD (1818–1898), the second son of James Cowles Prichard, was Surgeon to the Royal Infirmary from 1850 to 1870, and also for many years to the Eye Dispensary.

In 1850 Mr. Prichard advocated and first performed the operation of enucleation of the

eyeball for sympathetic inflammation in the opposite eye:—

"Bristol Royal Infirmary. Cases under Augustin Prichard, Esq.[1]

"James F., 46, admitted September, 1850. Thirteen years previously he had met with an accident . . . a piece of iron entered his left eye . . . and the constantly recurring inflammation of the injured eye has kept up so much sympathetic inflammation in the right that he has been for a long time disabled from gaining his livelihood. . . . He is quite unable to use the right eye from the great intolerance to light. . . . (After several months' treatment) the symptoms still remained in all their severity and . . . I proposed as a last resource the removal of the globe of the eye. . . . I performed the operation in the usual way on the 14th of October, the patient being under the influence of chloroform. . . .

"October 23rd, went out quite well, his right eye being quite strong and the sight good. The case is interesting as being the first recorded instance as far as I can discover in which extirpation of the globe has been performed for a disease of the eye which is not malignant. I should think that a similar operation might be performed in many instances with advantage . . . when the sound eye is endangered, as it undoubtedly is, by the disease of the other."

Sir J. H. Parsons, writing on the subject of "Sympathetic Ophthalmia,"[2] says:—

"The most notable contribution to our knowledge of this disease was made by Augustin Prichard (1851) of Bristol, who first proved the efficiency of excision of the exciting eye. This treatment was received with distrust, even by von Graefe. . . . von Graefe later recognized the value of excision."

[1] *The Provincial Medical Journal*, 1851, p. 66.

[2] *Pathology of the Eye*, vol. iv., p. 1,229.

DR. WILLIAM BIRD HERAPATH, F.R.S. (1820–1868), was the son of William Herapath (1796–1868), who was one of the founders of the Bristol Medical School, Professor of Chemistry and Toxicology, 1828–1867, and a renowned toxicologist.[1] The son also distinguished himself in the same speciality, and since they both died in the same year some confusion between them has arisen. Dr. W. B. Herapath entered the Medical School in 1839, became M.R.C.S. 1844, M.D. 1851, and practised in Old Market Street. He discovered the sulphate of iodo-quinine[2] ("Herapathite") and developed from this discovery the test for the presence of quinine in small quantities.[3] "Having been struck with the facility of application and the extreme delicacy of the reaction of polarised light . . . upon the sulphate of iodo-quinine, I determined upon attempting to bring this method into practical use for the detection of minute quantities of quinine in organic fluids. I have at length discovered a process by which it is possible to demonstrate the presence of quinine even if in quantities not exceeding 1/100,000 part of a grain. The same process (modified) has enabled me to prove that quinidine (is excreted) by the kidnies unaltered . . . which has not hitherto been observed."

ELIZABETH BLACKWELL (1821–1910), the pioneer of women doctors, was born in Bristol on 3rd February, 1821, the daughter of Samuel Blackwell, who

[1] Cf. *Scholæ Med. Bristol*, p. 6; John Wright & Sons Ltd., 1933.

[2] "On the optical properties of a newly-discovered salt of quinine," *Philosophical Magazine*, March, 1852, p. 161; Sept., 1852, p. 186.

[3] "On the discovery of quinine . . . in the urine of patients . . ." *Ibid.*, 1853, p. 171.

emigrated with his family to America in 1832. She was educated at private schools in Bristol and New York, and herself taught in Kentucky and in North and South Carolina. Presently she became a student of medicine in the University of Geneva, U.S.A. She also studied in Paris and, thanks to the help of Sir James Paget, at St. Bartholomew's in London. She practised in New York from 1851, founding there a hospital and medical school for women. She also founded the National Health Society of London and assisted in founding the London School of Medicine for Women. Dr. Blackwell was the first woman admitted to the Medical Register of the United Kingdom. She died at Hastings 31st May, 1910.

ROBERT FLETCHER (1823–1912) was born in Bristol and entered the Medical School in 1839. In 1844 he qualified as M.R.C.S. and L.S.A. In 1847 he went to the United States, settling in Cincinnati, where he practised medicine for some years. He served as an army surgeon in the Civil War and was given the rank of colonel for meritorious service. From that time forward he worked at Washington in the Surgeon-General's Department. In 1879, when the *Index Medicus* was first published, Dr. Fletcher was associated with Dr. Billings as co-editor for twenty-one years and as Editor-in-Chief for nine years. In 1906 he was given a banquet by the leading members of the profession in the United States in recognition of his work at the Surgeon-General's Library. In 1910 the Royal College of Surgeons of England awarded him their gold medal, and in 1912 he received the honorary degree of M.D. from the University of

Bristol. The Editorial Note in this Journal referred to his death as depriving the Bristol Medical School and Royal Infirmary of their oldest student and the world of medicine of its Bibliographer-in-Chief.

Of J. GREIG SMITH (1854–1897) the *Journal of the American Medical Association*[1] said: "His treatise on *Abdominal Surgery* published in 1887 placed him in the front rank." And it is probably as the author of this work that he is known to the world at large, though to us his best claim is that he was the first Editor of the *Journal* and the founder of the Society's Library. The story is told at greater length in the History of the *Journal* in this issue. Greig Smith himself ranked as his best work his contributions to the pathology of bone, particularly "The Pathology and Treatment of Chronic Osteo-arthritis"[2] and "On the Formation of Callus,"[3] and it was in recognition of these original researches that the Edinburgh Royal Society elected him to their Fellowship. The impulse he gave to the progress of surgery in his day came from his own first-hand knowledge, acquired in the course of his many and varied researches in the problems of surgery and pathology—researches the publication of which was prevented by his premature death at the age of 43.

In 1892 MR. A. F. STANLEY KENT, Professor of Physiology in University College and the University of Bristol 1899–1918, demonstrated the auriculo-

[1] August 7th, 1897, p. 297.

[2] Bristol Royal Infirmary Reports, vol. i., 1878–79, p. 81.

[3] *Journal of Anat. and Physiology*, vol. xvi., 1881–82, p. 153.

ventricular bundle of the mammalian heart, sometimes called the bundle of His. Up to that time it had been thought that the fibrous tissue of the mammalian heart completely separated the muscular tissue of the auricles from that of the ventricles, and several ingenious hypotheses were advanced to explain the passage of the systolic contraction wave from one to the other.[1] "A series of rats was taken and sections were prepared as a complete series right through the heart. The result of a careful study of these series has been to convince me that even in the adult animal a strongly-marked band of muscular tissue remains and preserves the integrity of the muscular connection between the two chambers of the heart. . . . But in addition to this comparatively simple mode of connection, we have, in the monkey, remarkably well developed, a second and far more complicated system of communicating fibres. Lying on the borderland between the undoubted muscle on the one hand and the connective tissue on the other, there may be distinguished cells which whilst certainly not belonging to the connective tissue yet differ very markedly from the muscle fibres in the immediate neighbourhood. These cells are usually spindle-shaped, nucleated, granular and often transversely striated, and are obviously a form of tissue intermediate between ordinary cardiac tissue and plain or non-striped muscle."

At the foundation of many of the Bristol hospitals medical men have played important parts :—

[1] *Journal of Physiology*, vol. xiv., 4, 5, 1893, p. 217.

DR. BONYTHON was a most active promoter of the Bristol Infirmary, and might almost claim to be a co-founder with John Elbridge. His is the first name on the roll of Infirmary physicians, where he held office from 1737 to 1761.

MR. W. H. GOLDWYER, "Surgeon and Oculist," with great energy enlisted the sympathies of many eminent citizens in a scheme which he launched in 1810 for founding an Eye Hospital. This proved an immediate success, and Goldwyer's services were so generally appreciated that the freedom of the city was presented to him in 1816. The success of the Bristol Eye Hospital has proved to be enduring, and at the present time it is undergoing important extension.

JOHN BISHOP ESTLIN (whose sister married James Cowles Prichard) founded in 1812 the Bristol Eye Dispensary, and it was at this Institution that Augustin Prichard obtained his first experience of ophthalmic surgery, which he afterwards used to such good purpose.

DR. KENTISH was the most active medical man amongst the promoters of the General Hospital. He had been Physician to St. Peter's Hospital for twenty-eight years and to the Bristol Dispensary for the same period. He had also been the proprietor of the "Vapour Baths" in College Green, opposite the east end of the Cathedral. The Bristol General Hospital was formally opened in 1832. Kentish was for a long period a member of the Infirmary

Committee, and no one realized more fully how inadequate the one institution was to the city's needs.

There was also a DR. ABRAHAM BAGNELL, who was greatly interested in the foundation of the General Hospital. His pamphlet urging its claims has been preserved in part by Munro Smith in his *History of the Bristol Royal Infirmary.* Bagnell attacked the inhuman practices of the Infirmary Staff, speaking with horror of "an instrument called the stethoscope," which "is applied to different parts of the chest and sides of the palpitating patient." He described his pamphlet as an appeal to humanity and benevolence.

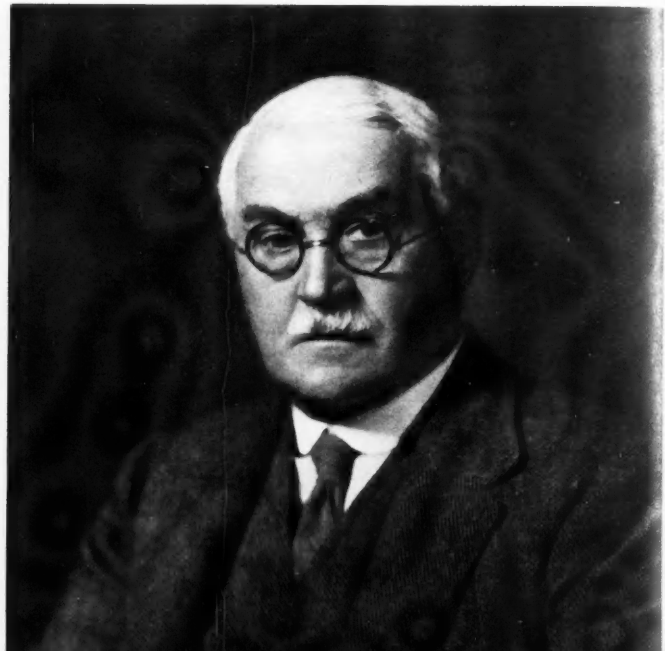
The year 1833 was remarkable in Bristol not only for the foundation of the Medical School, but because the first Annual Meeting of the Provincial Medical and Surgical Association was held here on 19th July of that year. The Editor of the *Lancet,* in reviewing that meeting, criticized the name, and suggested "British Medical Association," which was afterwards adopted.

"PROVINCIAL MEDICAL AND SURGICAL ASSOCIATION."[1]

"Yesterday our Infirmary was complimented with the distinguished honour of being the place selected for holding the first anniversary meeting of the above Society, in consequence of the very numerous list of Bristol members, and the respectable support given to the Association by the most eminent professional gentlemen of this city."

[1] *Lancet,* 1832–33, vol. ii., p. 572, 27th July, 1833.

Of the 400 members 50 were Bristolians; 200 attended the meeting. Dr. Carrick was unanimously called to the Chair (his speech is recorded in full) and no less than eight Bristol medical men were elected to the Council of the Association.



E. FAWCETT, M.D., F.R.S.
Professor of Anatomy, 1893.
Dean of Faculty of Medicine, 1905.

## THE CENTENARY OF THE FOUNDATION OF THE BRISTOL MEDICAL SCHOOL.

THE centenary of the Bristol Medical School was celebrated by the University of Bristol on 30th June and 1st July, 1933. A history of the School, written for this occasion by Dr. George Parker, relates its origin from the fusion of several private schools of anatomy, of which the first was started in 1744, seven years after the opening of the Bristol Infirmary. In 1815 the Society of Apothecaries of London was authorized by Act of Parliament to examine and license all new apothecaries, as the general practitioners were called at that time, and to prosecute unqualified apothecaries. This Act required that candidates for qualification should attend at proper lectures and clinics. The Apothecaries' Society gave "recognition" to some of the lecturers in Bristol as early as 1828, and by

1831 a medical student could attend the whole course in medicine at Bristol, and obtain the licence of the Society of Apothecaries without any period of residence in London. This attitude of the Apothecaries' Society made provincial medical schools possible in England. The Royal College of Surgeons strenuously opposed the provincial schools, insisting on attendance at a hospital of 100 beds in London or in certain Scottish or Irish medical centres.

Bristol formed in 1833 a very strong school by the combination of lecturers from various groups, urged thereto by Dr. Carrick. He was a Scottish M.D., senior physician at the Infirmary, and a man of great foresight and character. Carrick delivered the inaugural address at the opening of the School on 14th October, 1833. In this address he observed that now for the first time instruction could be given in Bristol in every department of medical science, and he expressed the hope that the medical school would before long form an integral part of the then flourishing "Bristol College," and share in its general literary and scientific training. Soon all the rival schools disappeared, and in 1834 the College of Surgeons was forced to capitulate, offering the same recognition as the Apothecaries had done. Thus, the Bristol Medical School was launched on a course which led by various stages to incorporation in the University College (founded in 1876). Ultimately, when the University of Bristol received its Charter in 1909, the old Medical School became the Faculty of Medicine in the University. It is this unbroken existence during one hundred years that has just been celebrated. The Dean, Professor E. Fawcett, M.D., F.R.S., has occupied the Chair of Anatomy during forty years of that century, and has been Dean of the Medical Faculty

since 1905—a record of valued service and unremitting energy that it will be hard to equal.[1]

On Friday, 30th June, 1933, the past and present members and students of the Bristol Medical School, delegates from sister universities and the ancient Medical Corporations and guests were entertained at garden parties, given by the respective Presidents, at the Royal Infirmary and the General Hospital. In the evening they assembled to the number of 250 at the University Union to what Pepys would have called "a sorry, poor dinner."

The Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Professor Edward Fawcett, F.R.S., was in the chair. In addition to Delegates and Honorary Graduands there were present the Lord Mayor of Bristol, the Lady Mayoress, the Sheriff (Dr. Kenneth Wills) and Mrs. Wills.

After dinner the Vice-Chancellor received members, delegates and guests to the number of 1,200 at the University. A feature of the evening was an exhibit of Library incunabula and objects of interest connected with the School: among other exhibits were a collection of the various medals offered for competition in the School, rare and exceptionally interesting publications by bygone Bristol medical men, and curiosities, such as the stocking of Cotter, the Irish giant.

### CONGREGATION FOR CONFERRING HONORARY DEGREES.

The central feature of the official celebrations was the Congregation for conferring Honorary Degrees, held in the Hall of the University on the morning of Saturday, July 1st. Public expectation had been roused by a rumour that the Chancellor would on this

[1] Reprinted, by courtesy of the Editor, from the *British Medical Journal*, 1933, vol. ii., p. 70.

unique occasion break through the rule that he has laid upon himself since his installation, and actually appear in person to crown the ceremonies and himself to confer the degrees ; but this hope proved illusory.

The Vice-Chancellor presided over the congregation.

Present :—Pro-Chancellors Dr. S. H. Badock, Dr. H. C. Baker ; Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor J. F. Dobson.

Delegates from Universities : Professor E. Bramwell, F.R.C.P. (Edinburgh), Professor W. Langdon Brown, F.R.C.P. (Cambridge), Professor A. H. Burgess, F.R.C.S. (Manchester), Sir E. Farquhar Buzzard, Bt., K.C.V.O., F.R.C.P. (Oxford), Mr. P. T. Crymble, F.R.C.S. (Belfast), Dr. W. R. Dawson (Dublin), Professor W. J. Dilling (Liverpool), Sir Ernest Graham Little, M.P., F.R.C.P. (London), Professor A. Hunter, F.R.S.E. (Glasgow), Professor Stuart McDonald, F.R.C.P. (Durham), Professor J. W. McLeod (Leeds), Professor G. P. McLoughlin (Ireland), Professor L. G. Parsons, F.R.C.P. (Birmingham), Professor Miles H. Phillips, F.R.C.S. (Sheffield), Professor A. W. Sheen, C.B.E., F.R.C.S. (Wales), Professor T. Shennan, F.R.C.S. (Aberdeen).

In place of a delegate, the University of St. Andrews sent an address of congratulation to the Bristol Medical School.

Representatives of Medical Corporations : The Right Honourable Lord Dawson of Penn, P.C., G.C.V.O., K.C.B. (Royal College of Physicians of London), Sir Holburt J. Waring, P.R.C.S. (Royal College of Surgeons of England), Dr. R. C. B. Wall, F.R.C.P., M.S.A. (Society of Apothecaries), Sir Norman Walker, P.R.C.P. (President, General Medical Council).

The Vice-Chancellor declared the Congregation open for the conferment of degrees.

**Professor Miles Harris Phillips, F.R.C.S.**

The Public Orator: "The first whom I am to present is one who began his studies in this place, and whom we may therefore claim in some sense as a distinguished alumnus of our own. Professor Miles Harris Phillips was a student in the University College under our present Dean of Medicine, and completed his studies at King's College, London, where he took honours in obstetric medicine. Since then his important work as Surgeon to the Jessop Hospital in Sheffield and as Professor of Obstetrics and Gynæcology in the University there has won him a position of distinction and authority in the branch of therapeutics which he has made his own. Among other important services I may mention that he served for four years upon the Departmental Committee set up by the Ministry of Health to study the problem of Maternal Mortality, and undertook special investigations into the midwifery practice and methods of teaching Clinical Obstetrics in Holland, Denmark and Sweden.

"I present to you, therefore, Professor Miles Harris Phillips as eminently worthy of the degree of Doctor of Medicine, *honoris causa*."

**Professor Ernest William Hey Groves, M.D., F.R.C.S.**

"The next case, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, is also drawn from our neighbourhood, but the symptoms are different. Mr. Hey Groves's eminence in the practice and teaching of Orthopædic Surgery, and especially in that branch of it which deals with diseases and fractures of bone, is very well known to you. He was for twenty-nine years on the staff of the Bristol General Hospital, and during that period

gained many of the awards and honours which are reserved for men in the first rank of his profession. He has been Jacksonian Prizeman, Bradshaw Lecturer, Hunterian Orator, and he has held the Long Fox Lecturership in this University. He has been a Member of Council of the Royal College of Surgeons since 1918, and in 1929 was elected Vice-President. In 1930 he became President of the British Orthopædic Association, and in 1931 President of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland.

"It is a privilege for me to present as a colleague a man so distinguished in a profession where the standard of distinction is so high. His tenure of the Chair of Surgery in this University came to an end last year; but we are glad to think that as Professor Emeritus he is still a member of our body, and that we may still depend upon his friendly counsel and goodwill.

"I present to you Professor Emeritus Ernest William Hey Groves as eminently worthy of the degree of Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*."

### Sir Frank Colyer, K.B.E., F.R.C.S.

"Mr. Vice-Chancellor.

"There is no subject for which the ordinary man has a more profound and anxious respect than Dental Pathology, and none which does more to sharpen his memory of the Greek he learned at School: πάσχω, I suffer; πείσομαι, I shall suffer; ἔπαθον, I did suffer; —why didn't I have gas?

"But it is not only, or even chiefly, as an upholder of classical studies that I present Sir Frank Colyer, but as an eminent authority in a department of science which is found to be of great and increasing importance in every sphere of curative medicine.

"As surgeon, for over thirty years, to the Royal Dental Hospital he has been insistent in demanding of his students a sound knowledge of general pathology, and his teaching and example have had far-reaching effects upon dental practice in this country.

"During the War he rendered distinguished services as Consulting Dentist Surgeon to the Croydon War Hospital; and it was in recognition of these services especially that His Majesty was pleased to confer upon him the honour of knighthood.

"He is the author of a standard book on Dental Surgery, and other works on odontological subjects, especially on the variations and diseases of the teeth of animals. But the work which, I believe, has given him special pleasure, and legitimate pride, is that which he has done for the Odontological Collection of the Royal College of Surgeons. He has been Honorary Curator of this collection for thirty years, and has had the honour of seeing a prize founded by the Royal College of Surgeons in his name.

"I present to you, therefore, Frank Colyer, Knight, as eminently worthy of the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*."

### Sir Norman Walker, M.D., P.R.C.P.

"Mr. Vice-Chancellor.

"There is no department of science which has done more to relieve human misery than Dermatology, and it is in this special field that Sir Norman Walker is an eminent English authority. I say "English" for the sake of euphony and in a spirit of patriotism; but I shall have to admit, if challenged, that like so many good things and men he comes from Scotland.

"Graduating at Edinburgh, he early devoted himself to dermatological research, and after studying in the United States, in Prague, and in Hamburg (where he was a pupil of Unna) he was appointed Assistant to the Skin Department of the Royal Infirmary in Edinburgh at the early age of twenty-nine. He was appointed Physician there in 1906, and in the same year was made University Lecturer in Dermatology, a post which he held until 1924. His reputation as a teacher of his subject drew students to Edinburgh from all over the world, and his pupils are to be found now in every country. Of his literary works two were published in Bristol, a translation of Hansen's *Leprosy* and an *Introduction to Dermatology*. He is also the translator of the monumental work by Unna on the *Histopathology of the Skin*. Since 1906 he has represented the Medical Practitioners of Scotland on the General Medical Council; has served as Chairman of the Business Committee, and of the Examination Committee; and since 1931, when Sir Donald Macalister retired, has held the very onerous and responsible post of President. In the service of medical education outside this country he has paid two visits to India at the request of successive Secretaries of State to report on medical education in that country, and two visits to the United States to discuss means of closer co-operation in medical studies between the two nations. He is a Member of the Court of Edinburgh University and Chairman of the Consultative Council for Medical and Allied Services under the Scottish Department of Health.

"I therefore present Norman Walker, Knight, as eminently worthy of the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*."

HONORARY GRADUATES.

Sir Norman Walker. Sir Holbert Waring. Lord Dawson. Professor Hey Groves. Sir Frank Colyer. Professor Miles Phillips.

**Sir Holburt Jacob Waring, P.R.C.S.**

"Mr. Vice-Chancellor,

"I have already had the privilege of presenting to you the Vice-President of the Royal College of Surgeons. I am now to present the President, Sir Holburt Jacob Waring, a man distinguished both for his work as a surgeon and for his many and eminent services in the cause of medical education. Since 1902, when he was appointed Assistant Surgeon, to 1931, when he completed twenty-two years' service as Surgeon, he has been a member of the staff of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and during that time has established a great reputation and has won many professional honours. Among these I may mention his appointment as Bradshaw Lecturer in 1921 and as Hunterian Orator in 1928. In the academic sphere his services have been equally conspicuous. He has been Dean of Medicine and Examining Surgeon in the University of London, and from 1922 to 1924 held the office of Vice-Chancellor. He has performed the duties of Treasurer to the General Medical Council (of which he was for many years a valued member) and of Treasurer to the Dental Board and to the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He is the author of important works on surgery, and in particular of a standard work on *Diseases of the Liver and Gall-bladder and Biliary System.*

"His authority in this domain, and the confidence that is reposed in his judgement in all matters affecting these sensitive and delicate regions is established conclusively by the fact that the General Medical Council — that very prudent body — appointed Sir Holburt Waring to the most intimate and momentous

post of which they have to dispose: I refer to the post of Cellarer.

"It is therefore with great confidence, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, that I present Holburt Jacob Waring, Knight, as eminently worthy of the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*."

**The Right Honourable Lord Dawson of Penn, P.C., G.C.V.O., K.C.B., LL.D., D.C.L., P.R.C.P., F.R.C.S.**

"Mr. Vice-Chancellor,

"Last of our distinguished graduands I present to you one who has already been honoured by many Universities for his services to medical education and his contributions to medical literature.

"Throughout his career Lord Dawson of Penn has been attached to the London Hospital, and has taken an active part in the clinical teaching of the Medical School belonging to that institution. In the academic sphere he has been Dean of the Faculty of Medicine in the University of London, and is a Member of the Senate. He is a member of the Medical Research Council, and since 1931 has been President of The Royal College of Physicians. This year he is also President of the British Medical Association. Of his many important contributions to medical literature I shall not attempt, as a layman, to give you any account. But I shall be content simply to give the title of one, because it offers a challenge to a conscientious public orator, and I want to see if I can do it. It is entitled *Spirochætosis ictero-hæmorrhagica*—and that, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, is, I believe, merely a handy title used for convenient reference. During the four years of the European War he served as Physician Consultant in France, and at the conclusion of hostilities was made

Chairman of the Council set up by the Government to devise a scheme of hospital co-ordination and health services throughout the country.

"His Majesty was pleased to ennoble him in 1920, and he took his seat in the House of Lords as Baron Dawson of Penn. His interventions in debate have been confined to scientific and social subjects, in which his great knowledge and experience have given his opinion authoritative weight. He has had the honour to be appointed Physician-Extraordinary to his late Majesty King Edward, and Physician-in-Ordinary to H.M. King George and H.R.H. the Prince of Wales.

"Such, in brief and inadequate outline, is this record of his honours and achievements. And I might end here. But in presenting the last of these eminent men I should like to impose upon him the burden and the duties of a symbol. I should like to say that as President of the Royal College of Physicians Lord Dawson worthily embodies, in his office as in his person, that great tradition of integrity, of devotion, of fearless surmise and faithful question which has built up the great art of healing, and to which, in its varied manifestations and powers we have endeavoured to do honour to-day.

"I present to you the Right Hon. Bertrand, Lord Dawson of Penn, as eminently worthy of the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*."

LUNCHEON AT THE UNIVERSITY UNION.

The Vice-Chancellor presided and proposed the toast of the Honorary Graduates.

Lord Dawson of Penn, in reply, said:—

"It is indeed a high honour to be associated with the Bristol Medical School on this historic occasion. For centuries Bristol proudly claimed to be the

foremost provincial city and port of the realm; and it is therefore natural when we turn our eyes to the past to think first of Bristol as a port. One vessel in particular that sailed from this port is of interest to medical men, for in it sailed as an officer Dr. Dover, now remembered chiefly as the inventor of the powder that bears his name. This vessel, one of the first to circumnavigate the globe, brought back to Bristol Alexander Selkirk from his lonely exile; and it was on the quays of Bristol that he met Daniel Defoe, who immortalized him as Robinson Crusoe.

"Bristol men indeed have always been famed for their enterprise and adventure. That that enterprise has persisted is witnessed by the great progress of your University. The Bristol Medical School of which your University is the child—or possibly grandchild—was fortunate in the early days of its history in finding leaders of thought and action: such men as Budd, Beddoe, W. B. Carpenter, J. G. Swayne, and Symonds. But illustrious as these were, the Faculty of Medicine need fear no comparison of the present with the past. And no small part of the position which your school occupies to-day is due to Professor Fawcett. It is seldom indeed that in any University there has been such a record as that of your Dean—for forty years Professor of Anatomy, and for twenty-eight Dean of the Faculty of Medicine. It is to us an honour to pay him homage, a homage that is enshrined in our affections.

"I have been interested recently in the subject of Honorary Degrees. And among other curious discoveries I encountered the Degree of Master in Grammar. It was bestowed upon those schoolmasters whom it was desired to honour with a special distinction, and the accompanying ceremonies throw an interesting

sidelight on the educational methods of a bygone age. The new Graduate was accosted by a Bedell, who presented a rod, with which the Master forthwith proceeded to flog a boy: the Bedell and the boy each received a groat for their 'pains.'

"I think it is true that medical education is at the parting of the ways.[1] The reason is this: Medicine has so grown in scope that there is now serious danger of the branches of the tree overweighting the trunk.

"As a result of the increase of the branches of medicine, the curriculum is so overweighted that there is a serious danger that we shall not produce the medical men of the quality we desire.

"It is part of the duty of all medical faculties throughout the country to address themselves to the problem of how the curriculum can be altered in order to bring about the prime object of all education. That is, first, to train the mind, and, secondly, to instil into the students the basic facts that must make the foundation of any well-educated medical man.

"That foundation at the present moment is being imperilled for the reason that each year that goes by there comes along a new subject, and that new subject is heaped on the already full curriculum.

"It would be adjusted, no doubt, by making the branches of the profession take their proper place as skilled crafts that are learned subsequently to the basic education required for the qualification of the student.

"It is true, craftsmen in this or that subject are needed. Not only are they needed, but they need to be more skilled as the years go by. But be it remembered that specialized crafts are good

[1] The conclusion of Lord Dawson's speech is reproduced by courtesy of the Editor from the *Western Daily Press*, 3rd July.

servants, but bad masters. They need to be controlled and guided by what we may call the wisdom of medicine which belongs to the trunk, and not to the branches of the tree."

Acknowledging the tribute of Lord Dawson, Professor Fawcett said that few men indeed were so fortunate as he had been to enjoy the privilege of serving the University through forty years. And particularly, that he had been able to take his part, as Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, in the celebration of the Centenary of the Medical School. He sincerely thanked all those who had worked so hard to make those celebrations a success.

There remained unfulfilled one of his long-cherished ambitions: to see established at the University of Bristol a scholarship to be bestowed on the most distinguished graduate of the year. Certain gifts had been made or promised, and he was hopeful that more would be forthcoming, as centenary gifts to the Medical School, towards the establishment of such scholarship; and when that had been achieved he, at least, would feel that his long connection with the School had been crowned with success.

The centenary celebrations concluded with a garden party given by the Sheriff and Mrs. Wills in the garden of the Royal Fort.

On July 29th a deputation visited University College, London, by kind permission of the Provost, to confer the degree of Doctor of Science on Professor Grafton Elliot Smith, LL.D., F.R.C.P., who was unfortunately unable to be present at the centenary celebrations. The Vice-Chancellor presided.

Present: Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor J. F. Dobson; Dean of the Faculty of Medicine Professor

Edward Fawcett, F.R.S.; Dean of the Faculty of Science Professor J. E. Lennard Jones, D.Sc.

The Public Orator:

"The science of comparative anatomy, and particularly the comparative anatomy of the brain, has had a profound effect upon modern theories of evolution, and so upon anthropology and the historical study of early civilizations. It is in this wide field of science and philosophy that Professor Elliot Smith is one of the chief living authorities.

"It was while helping archæologists in Egypt to interpret the anatomical evidence provided by human remains that he became interested in archaeology, and was able to invest his already extensive researches into the mechanism of the brain with a wider and more philosophical import. Of his researches it is not for a layman to speak; but those who are competent to judge would probably regard his work on the casts of the interior of the skull, and his more recent researches into stereoscopic vision as a factor in the evolution of intelligence, as contributions of outstanding importance.

"I may mention too that he first determined the function of a certain minute organ or accessory of the brain which is called the 'Hippocampus,' or 'sea-horse.'

"Yes, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, it appears that we all have a sea-horse on the brain. And what the moral or political significance of that may be, I feel that in the absence of our Chancellor we must not venture to speculate. But it is reassuring to know that Professor Elliot Smith has put a hook in its nostrils, and that the solution to all our anxieties in this matter is to be found in his book.

"He is the author of a series of works on evolution and early culture, which while addressed primarily to specialists have by their charm of style and skill of exposition gained a wide circle of non-professional readers. The Muses have never been banished from his laboratory, and in his hands the grimmest anthropoid skull has yielded Minerva in full arms. At Manchester, where he formerly held the Chair of Anatomy, he was President of the Literary and Philosophical Society. He is now Professor of Anatomy in the University of London, and has been President of the Anatomical Society of Great Britain and Ireland.

"I present to you Professor Grafton Elliot Smith as eminently worthy of the degree of Doctor of Science, *honoris causa*."

# Review

**Schola Medicinæ Bristol: Its History, Lecturers and Alumni, 1833-1933.** Pp. 115. Illustrated. Bristol: John Wright & Sons, Ltd. 1933. Price 2s. 6d.—The author's name does not appear on the title-page, but is disclosed in a "foreword" by the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine. From this we learn that Dr. George Parker is responsible for this timely and interesting book on the Medical School of which Bristol is justly proud. In less than twenty pages the author has given us a clear and succinct account of the origin and development of our School, and throughout his work there is evidence of that detailed and accurate research which we have learnt to expect from him. The account of the actual foundation of the Bristol Medical School is introduced by a reference to the conditions of medical teaching and the qualifications of students which led to the desirability of the formation of the School by "the combination of lecturers from various groups" which then existed in Bristol. It seems surprising now to recall that in 1879 it was decided that the School should only be affiliated to University College, and full incorporation did not take place till 1893. The largest part of the book is taken up by lists of students, which are of great interest to all past and present members of the School; unfortunately, the errors in the original records are sufficiently numerous to destroy much of their value as an authority for reference. We hope these may be corrected in a future edition. There are some excellent illustrations of buildings associated with the progress of the School from its inception to the present day. For this record of outstanding interest and lasting value the Bristol Medical School is greatly indebted to Messrs. John Wright & Sons Ltd., who have generously produced it, as a centenary gift to the School, entirely at their own cost.

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**Long Fox Memorial Lecture.**—The Long Fox Memorial Lecture will be delivered by Mr. Cecil A. Joll, M.D., Ch.M., F.R.C.S., on Tuesday, 7th November, 1933, in the Physiological Lecture Theatre of the University of Bristol at 5.30 p.m. The Vice-Chancellor will preside. Subject: "Recent Advances in the Ætiology, Diagnosis and Treatment of Cancer."